



NEWS RELEASE

Department of the Interior – Bureau of Land Management
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BLM Transfers Original Town Site to Truth or Consequences

LAS CRUCES – The U.S. Bureau of Land Management has deeded the site of the Geronimo Hot Springs Park to the city of Truth or Consequences, according to Amy Lueders, BLM-Las Cruces field office manager.

The approximately quarter-acre parcel on Main St. is the original town site. It is the site of the Geronimo Hot Springs, where Native Americans and early settlers came to bathe in the mineral water. Last March the land was developed into a park adjacent to the Geronimo Springs Museum.

Since 1957, the city has leased the site from the BLM under the Recreation and Public Purpose Act, which allows the BLM to lease lands to a state or local government. Once such land is fully developed, the BLM may sell the property.

The city of Truth or Consequences paid the BLM \$50 for the park site. The land is valued at about \$3,000 - \$5,000, according to City Manager Richard Ramsey.

The BLM, an agency of the U.S. Department of the Interior, manages about 13 million acres in New Mexico. The BLM's Las Cruces field office is responsible for about 5.4 million acres of that total in six southwestern New Mexico counties.

The agency manages such resources as outdoor recreation, livestock grazing and energy and mineral development that helps meet the nation's energy needs and by conserving natural, historical, cultural and other resources on the public lands, Lueders said.